

## OFFICE OF ATTORNEY GENERAL

MEMORANDUMWILLIAM J. SCOTT  
ATTORNEY GENERAL

October 21, 1980

TO File

FROM Reed W. Neuman

SUBJECT Dead Creek/Sanger: Gordon Hopewell

9/25/80  
3:30 P.M. 1980 Tonight I called the home of Otho (Gordon) Hopewell, Jerome Lane, Cahokia, (618) 332-1068. (Mr. Hopewell is the man who contacted both Pete Laumann and the St. Louis Globe-Democrat about dumping and dumps in the area.)

Mrs. Hopewell answered the phone, saying Mr. Hopewell was "in bed now" and couldn't talk to me. When I told her who I was and why I called, right away she said, "He doesn't know much besides what he told the newspaper" and "we've lived here a long time and don't want any trouble". Obviously somewhat intimidated.

She did give me some information, though. She said he used to work for Monsanto, but not any more. He now works as a steamfitter out of St. Louis, and is close to retirement. He was upset to read the stories about Pete Laumann's dog dying -- that's why he went to visit Mr. Laumann and called the newspaper. Like everyone else, she and her husband believe it's Waggoner's operations to be the one responsible for contaminating Dead Creek. But the Hopewells understand that Harold Waggoner is now dead (like everyone else!).

I tried to convince her to ask her husband to call me, but she sounded quite hesitant. She refused to tell me when it would be convenient for me to call him again, so I left my name and number and asked her to call me collect. I was left with the impression that he wouldn't call.

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However, on 9/26/80 at 4:45 P.M., Mr. Hopewell did call and talked to Ann. Her phone notes are attached.

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